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Drilling in the Faroes approaching

It is now just six months until Statoil will begin to drill another well in Faroe waters. It is expected that the Chinese drilling platform the Cosl Pioneer, will begin to drill the Brugdan 2 prospect this coming April. This fact is having an impact upon the daily oil industry activities in Tórshavn. Increased meeting activity Over the past few days, there has been quite a considerable amount of activity at the Statoil office premises in Tórshavn, down by the harbour. All the oil companies holding an exploration licence for Faroe territory have held a meeting where Jarðfeingi also attended. These meetings have mainly dealt with the various cooperation, which exists among the companies. Among other aspects discussed, were the various surveys, which have to be done in connection with the licenses. Currently, there are twelve active Faroe exploration licences. Particular focus has been directed towards the pending drilling operation in the Faroes. Statoil, ExxonMobil and Atlantic Petroleum have been preparing the Brugdan 2 well drilling, set for next April. This is a very large scale project and it is estimated to cost in excess of one billion D.kr. It will be very interesting to monitor this drilling operation, as it is projected to be drilled much deeper than any of the other wells previously drilled in the Faroes. Approval Approximately six months remain until the drilling gets underway, but there is much work associated with the project. The Cosl Pioneer drilling platform, which has been chartered to drill the well, is a brand new drilling rig, built in China. It is currently engaged in Norway and is being put through its paces there, before it comes to the Faroes. Statoil has been given approval from the Norwegian authorities to use the rig in Norwegian waters. Recently, several representatives for various Faroe authorities visited onboard the platform and people from Jarðfeingi are set to pay the rig a visit shortly, in order to certify the rig to drill in Faroe waters.